

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN RECONVENED ITS REGULAR SESSION OF JUNE 15, 2009 ON JULY 6, 2009 AT 4:30 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE CRAVEN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 406 CRAVEN STREET, NEW BERN, NORTH CAROLINA. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO CONDUCT A WORK SESSION WITH THE PLANNING BOARD ON THE HIGHWAY 70 CORRIDOR ZONING ORDINANCE.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Vice Chairman Theron McCabe
Commissioner Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Perry L. Morris
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner M. Renée Sisk
Commissioner Steve Tyson

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Officer
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
Jim Hicks, County Attorney

STAFF ABSENT:

Ray H. Moser, Assistant County Manager

PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jessie White
Willie Perry
Roger Bell

PLANNING STAFF PRESENT:

Don Baumgardner, Planning Director
Chad Strawn, Assistant Planning Director
Jason Federick, Planning Staff
Catherine Grimm, Planning Staff

Following an invocation by Commissioner Sampson, Jason Federick proceeded with an overview of the vision for each of the three zones: residential, commercial and mixed use. Chad Strawn presented options for establishing zoning authority, discussing the pro's and con's of separate Boards of Adjustments (BOA), rather than the Board of Commissioners or Planning Board, for issuing conditional use permits. He explained that conditional use permits issuance is politically charged, and that the Board of Adjustment takes the burden from the Commissioners. The Commissioners will need to decide how to proceed before a public hearing. The time of a public hearing would be a good deadline for deciding on the authoritative entity. The Commissioners asked if the Board of Adjustment would be from Twp. 6 and 7 or countywide. County Attorney, Jim Hicks, responded that it would most likely be from Twp. 6 and 7, but he will need to check on the requirements. The Planning Board already has a role in developing the ordinance and having them act as the Board of Adjustment could lead to confusion and conflicts. Commissioner Allen and Commissioner Sampson expressed preference for county wide representation. Commissioner Tyson stated preference for representation weighted toward Twp. 6 and 7. It was the consensus to appoint a Board of Adjustment and decide later on distribution. Mr. Baumgardner will research requirements with the School of Government, and will work with the County Attorney to present a written report that will outline options for appointments.

Public involvement, pace for moving forward and possible timelines for public hearings were discussed.

The Chairman stated that the Board needs a copy of the draft ordinance. The Board will then need to review the draft and schedule one more work session at the next regular

meeting, at which time a public information meeting will be scheduled, followed by public hearings. Mr. Baumgardner will check with Brinson School on some possible dates and bring back several options to the Board.

At 6:00 p.m. Commissioner Sisk moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Chairman Jason R. Jones
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board